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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Masahiro TAKIZAWA et al.

Serial No.: 10/511,964

Int'l Appl'n No. : PCT/JP03/05103

Date Filed: October 19, 2004

Int'l Appl'n Filing Date: 22 April 2003

For: MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Paul Teng January 24, 2005
Paul Teng Date
Reg. No. 40,837

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N.Y. 10036
(212) 278-0400

Commissioner for Patents.
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

This application is a Section 371 National Stage of International Application No. PCT/JP03/05103, filed on April 22, 2003. A copy of the International Search Report was submitted with this application. Another copy of the International Search Report is enclosed herewith. Many of the references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 are cited in the International Search Report. Other references listed in the Form PTO-1449 were cited in an August 2, 2002 European Search Report in connection with European Application No. EP 00 31 0108 which corresponds to the above-identified application. A copy of the August 2, 2002 European Search Report is enclosed herewith.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

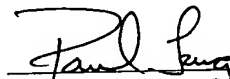
According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 that are not U.S. patent or U.S. patent publication.

This Information Disclosure is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicant's knowledge, a first Office Action on the merits has not been issued in this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Teng, Reg. No. 40,837
Attorney for Applicant
Cooper & Dunham LLP
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
(212) 278-0400

